Users request beamtime at the Advanced Light Source by submitting proposals that undergo a peer-review process. This process happens twice a year with deadlines typically in January and July. After the proposals are received, they are reviewed by ALS personnel for technical feasibility and safety, sent out for external review, and finally scored by the Proposal Study Panel (PSP). The scores are then used to allocate beamtime.

Proposal Guidelines

Proposals must be 3 pages or less and are ranked on

- Scientific Merit
- Technical Feasibility
- Capability of the experimental group
- Availability of the resources required

You should address all four criteria in your proposal. Most members of the PSP will not be experts in your field; thus, you should state your goals clearly and use language for a general scientific audience. Your proposal should highlight why you need synchrotron infrared radiation for your experiments (e.g. spot size). Please include references to at least five

publications relating to the proposal. Safety comes first at the ALS, so you should also address any potential hazards.

Mike and Hans would be happy to discuss your proposal before you submit it. In fact, we encourage you to speak with us in order to clarify any issues with technical feasibility and the availability of resources.

For more information, please see the ALS User guide.

Proposal Specifics

Proposals are entered on an on-line form here. A PDF preview of the form can be found here

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A couple of other miscellaneous items:

Two-bunch mode is not compatible with our instruments, so do not click this button.

Non-proprietary research is research that is intended to be published in the open literature. The ALS does not charge for this research and most user research will fall under this category. Proprietary research, on the other hand, will be charged a fee based on cost recovery for ALS usage. In return, the user may choose to take title to any inventions made during the proprietary research program and treat as proprietary all technical data generated during the program.